GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:948
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2001
GROUP MICRO FINANCING SCHEME
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are evolving a group micro financing scheme to help the 1.55 crore street vendors and hawkers in the country to access credit facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also decided to evolve a national policy on the informal sector, comprising such sections as shop workers, household servants, street children, destitutes and the old, besides street vendors and hawkers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this scheme will be funded by the Planning Commission;

(e) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented;

(f) the details of States which have already started implementing this scheme; and

(g) the extent to which this scheme is likely to be helpful in improving their living conditions ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (g): No, Sir. At present there is no proposal for evolving specific group micro financing scheme to help the vendors and hawkers in the country. However, under the Swarn Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) there is a provision for loans to urban poors including categories of street vendors and hawkers etc. and for group loans to poor women.

According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, at present there is no National Policy on street vendors and hawkers as they are regulated by the Municipal Bodies as per the relevant provision of the Municipal Laws.